

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 08556 311837Z
ACTION NODS-00

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-----025607 311842Z /50

O 311717Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9005
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 8556

EXDIS TREAT AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MILI, IS, LE
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON

REFS: (A) BEIRUT 5409, (B) STATE 259583, (C) TEL AVIV 8490,
(D) JERUSALEM 1747

1. I SAW WEIZMAN AT HIS KNESSET OFFICE IN JERUSALEM AT
1600 OCTOBER 31. CONVEYED SELECTED PORTIONS FROM REFTTEL
(A), CONCENTRATING ON VERY HELPFUL STATEMENTS IN PARA 2.
I EXPLAINED CAREFULLY THE REASONS WHY IT APPEARED IMPOSSIBLE
TO INCLUDE ANY OF HADDAD'S MEN IN THE VERIFICATION TEAM
(PARA 1); WIEZMAN READILY UNDERSTOOD NATURE OF PROBLEM,
AND DROPPED IDEA.

2. AS AMBASSADOR PARKER HAD REQUESTED (PARA 6), I DID NOT
INTRODUCE SUGGESTION OF AUGMENTED TEAM OF AMERICAN
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OBSERVERS. HOWEVER, WEIZMAN VOLUNTEERED THAT HE THOUGHT
HE COULD ACCEPT A PURELY LEBANESE VERIFICATION TEAM PLUE
AN AMERICAN OFFICER FROM UNTSO " IN WHOM YOU (MEANING THE
U.S.) HAVE CONFIDENCE", SO LONG AS THE LEBANESE ARMY
TEAM DID HAVE SOME MARONITE OFFICERS "WHO WOULD BE ABLE
TO UNDERSTAND THE HADDAD PROBLEM." HE SAID HE COULD
ACCEPT THIS KIND OF VERIFICATION MECHANISM NOW THAT HE

KNEW FROM MY REPORT THAT KHOURY SHARES HIS VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF MAKING CERTAIN PALESTINIANS ARE INDEED WITHDRAWN BEFORE LEBANESE ARMY MOVES IN. (REFTEL A, PARA 2).

3. I ALSO CONVEYED TO WEIZMAN PROBABLY TIMING FOR NEXT STEPS AND FOR ILMAC MEETING, PER PARA 5, REFTTEL A. HE SEEMED SATISFIED WITH THIS SCHEDULE AND PACE.

4. HAVING JUST LEARNED FROM UN VIA AMCON JERUSALEM OF ANOTHER INVASION OF POST AT OP HIN (REFTEL D), I RAISED MATTER STERNLY AT END OF CONVERSATION. NEITHER WEIZMAN NOR HIS STAFF KNEW OF INCIDENT. THEY ARE CHECKING, BUT HE CONFIRMED THAT ONE OF HADDAD'S OFFICERS IS INDEED VERY DISAFFECTED ABOUT THE CEASEFIRE. HE HAD BEEN GIVEN ONE MORE CHANCE AFTER LAST EVENT AT OP HIN. IF REPORT IS CONFIRMED, WEIZMAN SAID, HE WILL MAKE CERTAIN THIS TIME THAT HE IS EFFECTIVELY CONTROLLED.

5. I ALSO TOOK OCCASION TO RAISE PROBLEM OF THREE LEFTIST JOURNALISTS HELD BY HADDAD. (BEIRUT'S 5408, PARA 3). WEIZMAN DID NOT RECALL ISSUE HAVING BEEN RAISED AT LAST ILMAC MEETING, BUT SAID HE WOULD CHECK THEIR DETAILED RECORD AND RELAY REPLY THROUGH US. HE MENTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT HE RECALLED HADDAD WAS INSISTING ON A EXCHANGE FOR SOME RELATIVES OF HIS BEING HELD CAPTIVE; HE THOUGHT, IN BEIRUT.

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6. COMMENT: I THINK WE ARE VERY CLOSE TO A DEAL ON VERIFICATION PROCEDURES. WE SHOULD CANVASS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE AMERICAN UNTSO OFFICERS AND IDENTIFY AT LEAST TWO OR THREE WHOM WE CAN CERTIFY TO WEIZMAN AS "HAVING OUR CONFIDENCE." USUN NEEDS TO MAKE SURE THAT BRIAN URQUHART IN THE UNSYG'S STAFF IS ON BOARD, AND THAT UN WILL COOPERATE--IF THIS HASN'T ALREADY BEEN DONE.
LEWIS

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NNN

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